

Professional Development Committee
The Place in Innsbrook, Richmond, Virginia
April 12, 2006
10:30 AM

Members Present:	Members Absent:	Staff:	Others:
James R. Dudley, MD (ch) Kathy Eubank Billy Altman Donna Helmick Linda Johnson Nick Klimenko Jeff Reynolds Holly Frost Randy Abernathy	Dave Cullen	Gary Brown Scott Winston Warren Short Tom Nevetral Chad Blosser Greg Neiman	Bobby Baker Marcia Pescitani Arthur R. Lyles Matt Dix Harry Baird Lorna Ramsey Heidi Hooker

Topic/Subject	Discussion	Recommendations, Action/Follow-up; Responsible Person
I. Welcome	The meeting called to order by Dr. Dudley at 10:35 AM.	
II. Introductions	Members of the committee and staff introduced themselves and who they represented.	
III. Minutes	The minutes of January 11, 2006 were approved with a change. (Attachment A)	
IV. Committee Membership	The VAVRS position is up for reappointment this year. Warren Short will notify the VAVRS for an appointment.	
V. Office Staff	Warren Short informed the committee of staffing changes and updates <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. BLS Training Specialist: Greg Neiman joined the Office February 10, 2006 and has hit the ground running. b. Certification Test Coordinator: The position is still in the approval process. It will be advertised immediately after approval. c. Training Fund Assistant: The position is still in the approval process. It will be advertised immediately after approval. 	

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VI. NREMT Computer Testing	<p>Tom Nevetral updated the committee on the latest on the NREMT Computer Based Testing Initiative</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Update of Harrisonburg Request: Pearson View will be adding two sites, Richlands and Harrisonburg, to the list of locations for NREMT Written Testing at the request of the Office. b. Seat Availability: Richlands may be a full Pearson View site as opposed to only EMS. c. Concerns: Demand will be the impetus for getting new sites added to the state. Concern was expressed that the need is higher in the Tidewater Area and the Community College is already A Pearson Vue Site. Would they be allowed to test NREMT through their site? Tom stated he would check into the question. 	
VII. Ad-Hoc Committees	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. BLS Accreditation: Kathy Eubank reported the committee had several meetings. At the first meeting it became apparent that most of the participants were not interested in BLS Accreditation but decided to move forward to form the structure. At the last meeting input was elicited and the committee voted to dissolve. A question was asked as to what were some of the major negatives expressed by the committee. Kathy stated they included <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1. It would become a single path instead of a dual path as presented 2. That ALS Accreditation has been a major problem and needed to be fixed before we proceeded with BLS Accreditation, 3. That BLS Accreditation would not solve the problem of poor instructors 4. A feeling that the number of ALS Courses has decreased since the implementation of ALS Accreditation. <p>The committee discussed the sub-committees concerns. A concern was expressed that people took this issue to the legislature instead of allowing the committee process to work. There were concerns that people were pursuing personal agendas, and about the interaction between the Councils and the Advisory Board, the Medical Direction Committee and the Professional Development Committee. It is felt the process should be medically driven and not political. Warren Short and Scott Winston discussed the OEMS Strategic Plan which was approved by the Advisory Board. The plan has objectives, steps, budget, and persons assigned and tasking. It also includes a status review column. Although BLS Accreditation is included in the Plan the status review column will display that this project has been removed from consideration.</p> b. Curriculum Review: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. ALS: Tom Nevetral reported the committee structure is in place and that he anticipates the first meeting to be sometime in May ii. BLS: Warren Short reported that new EMT-B and First Responder tests will be rolled out after July 1, 2006. They will be AHA Neutral, which means the questions will not be specific to either the 2000 or 2005 Guidelines. The BLS curriculum 	

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	<p>committee was stalled waiting on the BLS Specialist to be hired, anticipate staffing and the committee having its first meeting in May.</p> <p>c. EMS Instructor Credentialing: Warren Short discussed the committee proposed by Nick Klimenko at the last PDC meeting. The committee will look at both Basic and ALS Instructor Credentialing. The Office will solicit interested names to fill the committee immediately. Nick Klimenko will chair the sub-committee.</p> <p>d. BLS Certification Test Committee: see below</p> <p>e. BLS Certification Evaluators Committee: Warren forwarded the recommendation from the BLS Accreditation sub-committee that, in addition to the EMS Instructor sub-committee the PDC consider the creation of two additional committees, one to look at BLS Testing and one to look at the BLS Test Evaluator program. There was discussion if both committees were needed and whether this would be redundant work that had been completed by the CTS Committee. It was felt that the task required both committees to tackle the issues properly. There was extensive discussion that a general questionnaire would not give accurate results since students tend to rank their instructor high until they fail the written or practicals and suddenly problems begin to appear. It was decided that the questions need to be specific about the course and instructor so that it doesn't matter if they pass or fail.</p>	<p>Motion: - Task the Office to develop a questionnaire delivered to all students at all test sites for 9-12 months (incl NREMT) to evaluate programs to identify specific issues with instruction, curriculum and testing process before forming committees. Made By: Nick Klimenko Second: Kathy Eubank</p>
		<p>Motion Withdrawn by Nick Klimenko</p>
		<p>Motion: - Task the Office to develop a survey delivered to all students at all test sites to gather information on where the problems are. Made by: Nick Klimenko Second: Jeff Reynolds Vote: Unanimously approved</p>
		<p>Motion: That the BLS Certification Test Committee and the BLS Certification Evaluator Committee be formed. Made by: Holly Frost Second: Jeff Vote: Unanimously approved.</p>

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BREAK 12:09 PM		
Committee Reconvened by Dr. Dudley at 12:35 PM		
	<p>Warren Short requested guidance from the Committee regarding the composition of the sub-committees.</p> <p>Jeff Reynolds volunteered as Chairman of the BLS Certification Test Sub-Committee</p> <p>Linda Johnson volunteered as Chairman for the BLS Certification Evaluator Sub-Committee</p> <p>The Regional Councils are encouraged to send representatives to the sub-committee meetings and all interested parties are welcome.</p>	<p>Motion: To endorse the following Committee Structures:</p> <p>BLS Certification Test Committee:</p> <p>4 EMT Instructors (representing regions of the state)</p> <p>1 Regional Council Rep</p> <p>1 VAVRS Representative</p> <p>1 Representative of the Accredited Programs</p> <p>1 EMS Program Representative</p> <p>and for the BLS Certification Evaluator Committee:</p> <p>4 EMT Instructors (representing regions of the state)</p> <p>1 BLS Evaluator</p> <p>1 Regional Council Rep</p> <p>1 VAVRS Representative</p> <p>1 Representative of the Accredited Programs</p> <p>1 EMS Program Representative</p> <p>Made by: Randy Abernathy</p> <p>Second by: Jeff Reynolds</p> <p>Vote: Unanimously approved</p>
	<p>Discussion: The tasking of the committee came about as a request to the Office to find alternative options for delivery of EMT-B and the committee would like that task to the Office to continue. In addition the committee would like to poll the regional councils to determine what the issues were regarding BLS Accreditation.</p>	<p>Motion: Endorse the dissolution of the BLS Accreditation Sub-Committee while recognizing the importance of the issues which led to its formation.</p> <p>Made by: Jeff Reynolds</p> <p>Second: Linda Johnson</p> <p>Vote: Unanimously approved</p>

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VIII. EMS Instructor Updates	Greg Neiman informed the committee that all of the updates have been set for 2006 and the dates and locations can be found on the OEMS website. The first middle of the week, evening, Update was offered in ODEMSA and was well attended. We will be piloting an Update at the VAVRS Convention this year in September at the request of the TEMS Region so that more of their providers can take classes at Symposium.	
IX. Instructor Institutes	Greg Neiman informed the committee that two Instructor Institutes have been scheduled for 2006; the first is June 10-14 at the VAVRS Rescue College and the second is October 14-18 in Loudon County. The deadline to take the Instructor Written Pre-test for the June Institute was March 15 th , close to 80 eligible candidates were invited to the Practical pre-test scheduled for Saturday April 22 nd in the Roanoke Area. To date, only 38 have indicated they would be attending. Written Pre-testing is ongoing. The written deadline will probably be sometime in July with the practical testing in August for the October Institute.	
X. Regulatory Updates	<p>Warren Short advised the committee that revamping of the DED section of regulations is ongoing. The Training Program Administration Manual (TPAM) must go through the process to become regulation to become enforceable. Everything in the TPAM has already been approved by the Governor's Advisory Board, the Medical Directions Committee and Professional Development Committee. Plans are to have the revised regulations to Mike Berg in May for review. They will then be presented to the Advisory Board at their meeting in August and hopefully enter the NORA process in November.</p> <p>The DED is pursuing the expansion of new technologies and hope to have Web-based CE available by the end of the year.</p>	
XI. Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. ALSTF: Chad handed out the packet containing the ALSTF Status Report & Accreditation Update (See Attachment B) There was discussion about the funding of ALS CE Programs b. BLS Funding: Warren reported there have been no development c. Status of BLS Funding Project: Warren reported that the Office has begun adding auxiliary courses for the basics to the ALSTF process and we hope to have that up and running July 1, 2006. There is a remaining issue with contracts; the move to changing ALSTF to EMS Training Funds is being held up by the VDH policy prohibiting any VDH employee from teaching in a program that receives funding from the Office. 	
XII. Accreditation Update	See Attachment B	
XIII. AHA Guidelines-BLS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. BLS: Greg Neiman reported that the Office has issued a plan regarding implementation of the 2005 AHA Guidelines into testing in Virginia. As of July 1, 2006 new First Responder and EMT-Basic written exams will be rolled out which are AHA neutral which means to questions will be specific to either the 2000 or 2005 guidelines. The Virginia Enhanced, Intermediate and Paramedic Exams have been 	

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	<p>evaluated and no changes are necessary. The National Registry has also issued their rollout plan which is available from their website. As for Practical Testing, there is an issue with the LP-500 Trainers, as configured now, they will not do the 2005 guidelines. We are awaiting information from Medtronic/Physio Control on what the plan is for these devices but anecdotal information suggests they are not upgradeable and will all need to be replaced. We are currently working on a plan to implement changes to the BLS Station. Until July 1, 2006, EMT Instructors should teach their students the 2000 guidelines so they can answer written and perform practicals under those guidelines until the rollout of the new materials. There is a statement in the new guidelines that persons performing CPR with an actual AED should follow the prompts of the device until the manufacturers/owners can replace or upgrade all of the devices which have been deployed in the US. Instructors are encouraged to make this statement in their courses so their EMT's can perform with any device placed in their hands.</p> <p>b. ALS: Tom Nevetral discussed the plans of the National Registry regarding written and practical testing. After June 1, 2006 the NREMT will publish interim pencil-and-paper EMT-Basic and First Responder Exams. After September 1, 2006 the NREMT will publish interim Paramedic, EMT-Intermediate (85 and 99) Exams. The interim examinations will be constructed so that candidates will not be penalized for being trained over <i>either</i> 2000 or 2005 AHA Guidelines for CPR and Emergency Cardiovascular Care. After January 1, 2007 all NREMT cognitive and psychomotor exams will reflect 2005 American Heart Association Guidelines for Emergency Cardiovascular Care. During the transition period, practical exam skill sheets will continue to reflect 2000 guidelines; however instructions to examiners will be modified so that candidates correctly performing to 2005 guidelines are not penalized.</p>	
XIV. Old Business	<p>a. Web-Based CE Program: Warren Short discussed Web Based CE. We have been working on this for 2 years+. We have developed a server that will receive info from vendors and can transfer that inside to give credit. The Office has been working with an agency to make this happen. The Office is aiming for a Web Based CE by the end of the year, which could award Category 1 CE. EMSAT is currently simulcast via the web if an Agency has a high speed connection can apply to become an accredited site. Providers currently are not able to watch at home and get credit, because there is no evaluation tool, but the Office hopes this will change with the Web Based CE program.</p>	

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XV. New Business	<p>a. SVCC Update: Ricky Lyles presented an update on the Video Streaming Pilot. They currently have 12 students in 2 High Schools. All of the students are passing and have had good results on practicals. They have encountered no problems. At least half are interested in obtaining their certification. The end Date of the program is June 15th, with students attending the CTS in July. Ricky will return in July to update the Committee. He reports increased interest in the program and the College is seeking an EMT-Instructor for their 2nd Campus to offer an in-person class. The committee discussed needing to set guidelines on how to proceed if other programs are interested and if SVCC wants to continue this program next year. It was felt that anyone else interested in pursuing this delivery option would need to follow Interim Guidelines until permanent ones can be drafted and they should come and present their plans to the PDC, which would forward recommendations to the Medical Direction Committee.</p> <p>b. NREMT Update with MDC: Dr. Dudley reported that Bill Brown came to the last Medical Direction Committee and gave an explanation of where they made the divisions in the future levels they will be supporting. Most of it came from the scope of practice. Transition away from Intermediate may take until 2012 or 2016 to complete. It was felt that a middle level, especially Intermediate, serves a critical need for our patients. Warren Short asked if the committee felt it was necessary to consider a new level between E and I which would not require Accreditation. The committee felt it was not needed and that maybe tweaking the accreditation process would be better. It was suggested that maybe the state convert Enhanced to the Advanced EMT proposed in the Scope of Practice and Intermediate would become a state certification only?</p> <p>c. Opinion on Accreditation: Warren Short requested that the committee consider putting forth a position on ALS Accreditation. There was discussion about the process of Accreditation and the committee felt although it is a long, tedious process provider education is better for it. There is a lot of misinformation and it is cumbersome but there are legitimate issues that can be addressed.</p> <p>Kathy Eubank voted against the measure citing too many problems to support accreditation at this time</p>	<p>Office of EMS to come up with Interim Guidelines and distribute DRAFT Permanent Guidelines to the Committee on or before July 1, 2006 for review prior to the July Meeting.</p> <p>Motion: This committee recognizes the importance of the Intermediate providers and support it remaining a level in Virginia Made By: Randy Abernathy Second: Linda Johnson Vote: Unanimously approved</p> <p>Motion: We strongly endorse the process of accreditation and support a review of the problems with the current process. By: Jeff Reynolds Second: Randy Abernathy Vote: Aye-8, Nay-1</p>

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	<p>d. Use of Scenarios to replace 10 hours/2 Patient Contacts in Clinical/Field Time: Warren Short discussed a recent request received by the Office to utilize Scenarios in place of Clinical/Field component of the EMT Curriculum that requires 10 hours and 2 Patient Contacts. It was discussed that the use of scenarios came about as a result of the mining community, which required EMT-Basics on every shift but they did not have access to clinical or field agencies to complete the requirement. In addition, the mines did not transport, but simply extricate injured miners to an awaiting ambulance. In this request an organization would like to use scenarios for out-of-state EMT providers to get them through a Basic Program because receiving documentation from their home state can delay their ability to work. They would like to use this only for those specific providers and not new in-state providers. There was considerable discussion about the increasing difficulty of both ALS and BLS programs to place EMS Students in Clinical Areas and Field Agencies</p>	<p>Warren: Send the committee the current regulations and describe where you see the need and what your concerns are.</p> <p>Motion: The Office be allowed, on a case-by-case basis, to approve or deny the use of alternative clinical options in place of 10 hours/ 2 patient contacts in the clinical/field arena By: Nick Klimenko Motion ruled out of order by the Chair because it reflects current practice</p>
	<p>Posting of the Committee Member's E-mail addresses: Greg Neiman requested that the committee member's e-mail addresses be linked to their names on the Committee web-page. This would make it easier for providers who have concerns or questions to contact their representative and would increase communication between the committee and the field. This was approved.</p>	
<p>XVI. Dates for 2006 meetings</p>	<p>The next meeting of this committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 12, 2006.</p>	
<p>XVII. Public Comment</p>	<p>None.</p>	
<p>XVIII. Adjournment</p>	<p>The meeting was adjourned by the Chairman Dr. Dudley at 2:58 PM</p>	

Professional Development Committee
Wednesday, April 12, 2006
The Place at Innsbrook
10:30 AM
Agenda

- I. Welcome
- II. Introductions
- III. Approval of Minutes from January 11, 2006
- IV. Committee Membership-Warren
- V. Office Staff - Warren
 - a. BLS Training Specialist Introduction
 - b. Certification Test Coordinator
 - c. Training Fund Assistant
- VI. NREMT Computer Testing – Tom
 - a. Update of Harrisonburg request
 - b. Seat availability
 - c. Concerns
- VII. Ad Hoc Committee
 - a. BLS Accreditation – Kathy
 - b. Curriculum Review
 - i. ALS – Tom
 - ii. BLS – Warren
 - c. EMS Instructor Credentialing – Warren
 - d. BLS Certification Test Committee-NEW
 - e. BLS Certification Evaluators Committee-NEW
- VIII. EMS Instructor Updates - Greg
- IX. EMS Instructor Institutes - Greg
- X. Regulatory Updates
- XI. Funding
 - a. ALSTF – Chad
 - b. BLS – Warren
 - c. Status of BLS Funding Process
- XII. Accreditation Update – Chad
- XIII. AHA Guidelines and Testing
 - a. BLS – Greg
 - b. ALS - Tom
- XIV. Old Business
 - a. Web-based CE-Warren
- XV. New Business
 - a. Southside Virginia Community College – Update

b. NREMT Update with MDC - Report

XVI. Dates for 2006 meetings

a. ~~January 11, 2006~~

b. April 12, 2006

c. July 12, 2006

d. October 11, 2006

XVII. Public Comment

XVIII. Adjourn